

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

For Release: **IMMEDIATE**
Date: November 17, 2006

Contact: Seth Effron
Phone: 919/733-5612

GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES 63 JOBS IN CLEVELAND COUNTY
One North Carolina Fund Grant Helps Ultra Machine & Fabrication Inc. Expand In Shelby

RALEIGH — Gov. Mike Easley today announced that Ultra Machine & Fabrication Inc. will expand in Cleveland County, creating 63 jobs and investing \$6 million during the next three years. The announcement was made possible in part by a \$108,000 One North Carolina Fund grant.

“Ultra Machine & Fabrication’s decision to expand means more skilled jobs for the hardworking people of Cleveland County,” Easley said. “We will continue to make the critical investments in education, worker training and infrastructure that make North Carolina an attractive place to do business.”

Ultra Machine & Fabrication Inc. is a precision fabricator of welded armored sub-assemblies for military contractors. Currently based in Kings Mountain with 112 employees, the company will move to a larger facility in nearby Shelby. While wages will vary by job function, the average weekly wage of the new jobs will be \$800 plus benefits, which is more than the Cleveland County average weekly wage of \$552 not including benefits.

“North Carolina is a great place to do business. The skilled labor, access to major highways, partnerships with local governments and the community were the deciding factors in our decision to continue expanding our operations in the Tar Heel state,” said Frank Stewart, president of Ultra Machine and Fabrication Inc.

The One North Carolina Fund assists the state in industry recruitment and expansion by providing financial assistance through local governments to attract business projects that will stimulate economic activity and create new jobs in the state. One North Carolina Fund grants require and are contingent upon a local match. Through the use of this Fund, more than 20,000 jobs and \$3 billion in investment have been created since 2001.

“These are the results of developing policies that make North Carolina a business-friendly state,” said Sen. Walter Dalton (D-Cleveland, Rutherford). “As a leader in the state Senate I will continue to work to pass laws that provide businesses with an educated and trained workforce.”

-- MORE --

Governor's Press Office
State Capitol, Raleigh, NC 27603-8001
(919) 733-5612 - Toll Free 1-800-662-7005
FAX (919) 733-5166